

An Army Lesson Learned Part 1: by Bill Nye the Army Guy

Sometimes Air Force personnel can find themselves in a tough spot. There is a lot of Army lingo thrown around and you either get it, or get embarrassed.



Figure 5-52. Low block against butt stroke to groin.

Example: The Buttstroke.

Obviously this isn't what you'd think, as it is a 4-step technique (see picture on left) used in the Army to strike an enemy with the butt of their rifle, not only saving ammo, but also getting a good knock on your opponent in hopes of dropping them.

Whatever it is that a young Air Force lad might have thought this was back in 2007, it wasn't, which led to much ridicule and razzing, but that young man survived and was promptly shown the proper buttstroke technique as to better fit in with his Marine/Army counterparts.

An Army Lesson Learned Part 2: by Bill Nye the Army Guy

There is always room for a good prank in the Army. Unlike stealing the Air Force's falcon and nearly killing it, there are times when a good ribbing is appreciated by all.

Example: Confusing a Lt

This seems like a simple task at first, but realize that these ladies and gentleman are fully fledged degreed meteorologists and are not always easy to fool. However, when a 175-1 request hits the desk they respond with great enthusiasm and work ethic. In this case though, an Army Major dropped off his 175-1 labeled "Huskey 00". Now to Bill Nye the Army guy, we'd know it's a dupe. One, I never saw that callsign before and all of our aircraft flew on one of two callsigns. Two, it had a drop zone and AR track attached. Now, I've never seen an H-64 be refueled in air, but to this Lt, it seems more than plausible. The key to a good prank, is to not give it away, so Bill gets up to get something to eat and returns 30 minutes later. A stressed Lt asks for help and you do the best you can to not turn over the ploy.

Eventually, the Weather Flight Commander approaches desk to inform the Lt that they are indeed Huskey 00. The Lt wasn't laughing, at least at first, however, realizing the joke and the fact that even the Army guys played along, really forwarded the relationship with our Army customers and it led to a great story. Until next time.

An Army Lesson Learned Part 3: by Bill Nye the Army Guy

Sometimes Air Force guys are expected to stay in the field with the Army. Don't be guard unaware of a few issues you might encounter.

Example: Sleeping with the Army

Indeed, the Army and Air Force are completely different, especially in the field. As the SWOs prepared for their evening meal (an MRE just like their Army brethren) reality sets in that it's winter and there is no heater. Now, a wise savvy TSgt has his sleeping bag, however, he does not completely fit into it, therefore, his face is freezing and he can't sleep. Meanwhile, a young smart Airman has taken a spot in the TOC, where they have a heater and slumps against the wall because he forgot his sleeping bag. Who outsmarted who? The jury is still out.

Another interesting fact some people might not know is that the Army men and women sleep amongst one another. This is no differentiation they are all soldiers and thus sleep as one. A confused TSgt realizing now that he's surrounded by both men and women preparing for a night sleep, was taken aback at the unity of this force and was impressed, wishing that the Air Force would adopt such comradery. So, if sleeping amongst the Army, don't be alarmed, instead, be a soldier just like them and you'll fit in just fine.